

NORTH SHORE STREAMKEEPERS

Minutes - Meeting of May 12, 2009

Present (13): Karen Munro, chair, J M Mathieson, Doug Hayman, Jan Lander, Bob Gelling, Go Komo. Hagen Hohndorf, Sandie Hollick-Kenyon, Richard Tak, Bonny Brokenshire, Dick Pearce, Janet Dysart, Corino Salomi.

Regrets: Terry Bragg

DFO Community Advisor (Sandie Hollick-Kenyon): Ron den Daas, currently in Europe, is organizing the **Rivers Day** event for late September on McKay Creek in Heywood Park. This will be a major celebration. Volunteers are needed to help organize. Contact Ron for further details (ecosystem@shaw.ca). **Workshop 2009** will be held in Maple Ridge, May 15 to 17, with many sessions helpful to streamkeepers. **Smolt trapping** on McKay Creek has recovered cutthroat trout and coho in both the side channel near Handsworth School and in the main channel. The side channel needs restoration work. Fry trapping methods have been revised to protect any water shrews that enter the traps (the Pacific water shrew is a species of conservation concern that is found typically in low gradient riparian areas). A info session on **surf smelt** emphasized the species' importance as a forage fish and as an important link in the food chain. The **Coho Festival** will be held in early September. If you have ideas on how we can make a better more informative display at Ambleside, get in touch with Sandie.

Finances (Terry Bragg by e-mail): The balances are: Environmental Damages Fund account \$770.06, regular account. \$13,328.56.

Hastings Creek (Hagen Hohndorf): **Smolt trapping** with 11 traps on April 17- 18 recovered 11 coho. **Fry trapping** is planned for July or August. **Invasive plant pulls** in Hunter Park are planned for June 13, July 11, and September 5. Details will appear on the North Shore Steamkeepers web site. The **fish ladder** on the outlet of Donovan's Pond needs renovation. The **Hastings Creek brochure** was mailed to 1100 residents on April 24 after a major envelope stuffing event. Bonnie Brokenshire organized this educational enterprise.

McKay Creek (Terry Bragg by e-mail) . The **annual clean up** occurred April 25; 11 people turned out. The creek contained less junk and rubbish this year; the public appears to have finally taken notice. Thanks to Caroline Jackson for supplying coffee & donuts. Sandie and Scott Ducharme carried out **fry trapping** in the Montroyal area; 13 coho smolts were trapped, measured and released. The North Shore Fish and Game Club members met with Scott on May 6th to

dismantle, clean and store the **incubation boxes**. Scott suggested a system for feeding the chum fry which would bring them up to a larger size, yielding a much better survival rate on release. This system will be discussed at the club's next meeting; it would entail extra work.

McKay Water Quality Study (Karen Munro): The chair presented the final report on the year-long study of McKay Creek done by the North Shore Steamkeepers and the North Shore Fish and Game Club with the assistance and support of a number of governmental bodies. Monthly assessments of flow and water quality at four sites along the stream were done; nutrients, metals, general parameters and coliform counts were measured. High coliform counts and elevated nutrient levels were major problems. Contact with, and education of, the local residents was an important feature of the project. The results are being forwarded to the Councils of local municipalities and other concerned parties. The technical report and a photo summary report will be posted to the NSSK website in late May.

Morten Creek (Doug Hayman): The **water supply** to the creek has been improved to avoid possible contamination of the main stream by other nearby water sources.. **Smolts** have left the stream for Lynn Creek. The **coho** have emerged from the gravel in the hatchery and are being fed. Thirty thousand **chum** were released.

Other business: Concerns were expressed again about the prospect of the addition of **fertilizer into Lynn Creek**. After discussion, the chair agreed to write a letter to Council recording the concerns of the group about this proposal.

Next Meeting

Tuesday, September 15, 2009- 7:30 pm
District Hall, 355 West Queens Road, North Vancouver

IMPORTANT AND USEFUL INFORMATION

Fisheries Violation Reporting: 604-666-3500

General Coordinator: Karen Munro 604-988-4072, karen-munro@shaw.ca,
www.nssk.ca

Secretary: Dick Pearce 604-987-9604, rhpearce@interchange.ubc.ca

Pacific Streamkeepers Federation: ZoAnn Morten 604-986-5059
pskf@direct.ca or www.pskf.ca

North Shore Streamkeepers Web Site: www.nssk.ca. Message board is at
<http://disc.yourwebapps.com/Indices/232171.html>

District Web Site: [www.dnv.org/Services/Environment/District Information](http://www.dnv.org/Services/Environment/District%20Information)

Community Advisor: Sandie Hollick-Kenyon 604-666-0743, HollickSa@dfo-mpo.gc.ca

Hastings Creek: Hagen Hohndorf 604-465-6305, fnh@shaw.ca

McKay Creek: Terry Bragg 604-985-7272, terrybragg@shaw.ca

Morten Creek: ZoAnn Morten 604-986-5059, zmorten@shaw.ca or ,
<http://members.shaw.ca/mortencreek/index.html>

Roche Creek: David Cook 604-924-0147 cookeco@hotmail.com

Seymour River: Matt Casselman 604-288-0511

seymoursalmonidvolunteer@hotmail.com or www.seymoursalmon.com/